

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND)	
DECORATORS PENSION FUND; TRUSTEES OF THE)	
CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS)	
WELFARE FUND; TRUSTEES OF THE)	
CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS)	
SAVINGS FUND; TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO)	
PAINTERS AND DECORATORS APPRENTICESHIP)	
FUND; TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS)	
AND DECORATORS SCHOLARSHIP FUND;)	
TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS)	
AND DECORATORS JOINT COOPERATION)	
TRUST FUND; AND TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO)	No. 25-cv-3760
PAINTERS AND DECORATORS RETIREMENT)	
SAVINGS FUND,)	
)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	
v.)	
)	
GENESIS PAINTING & DECORATING, CO.)	
an Illinois Corporation,)	
)	
Defendant)	

COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs, TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS PENSION FUND, TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS WELFARE FUND, TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS DEFERRED SAVINGS FUND, TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS APPRENTICESHIP FUND, TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND

DECORATORS SCHOLARSHIP FUND, TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS JOINT COOPERATION TRUST FUND, and TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS RETIREMENT SAVINGS FUND by their attorneys, Paul M. Egan, James R. Anderson, Grant R. Piechocinski, and ARNOLD AND KADJAN, LLP complain against Defendant **GENESIS PAINTING & DECORATING, CO.**, an Illinois corporation, as follows:

Jurisdiction and Venue

1. Jurisdiction of this cause is based on Section 502 of the Employee Retirement Security Act of 1974, 29 U.S.C. Section 1132, 1145 (“ERISA”), as amended, and 28 U.S.C. Section 1331.

2. The Northern District of Illinois is the proper venue pursuant to 29 U.S.C. Section 1132(e)(2) as the Plaintiffs Funds are administered here in this judicial district.

The Parties

3. The Plaintiffs are the TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS PENSION FUND; TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS WELFARE FUND; TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS SAVINGS FUND; TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS APPRENTICESHIP FUND; TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS SCHOLARSHIP FUND; TRUSTEES OF THE RETIREMENT SAVINGS FUND AND TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS

JOINT COOPERATION TRUST FUND, (“the Funds”), and have standing to sue pursuant to 29 U.S.C. Section 1132(d)(1).

4. The Funds have been established pursuant to collective bargaining agreements previously entered into between the Painters District Council #14 and its affiliated locals (the “Union”) and certain employer associations whose employees are or were covered by one or more collective bargaining agreements with the Union.

5. The Funds are maintained and administered in accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act, 29 U.S.C. Section 186, *et seq.*, as amended, ERISA, 29 U.S.C. Section 1001, *et seq.*, and also pursuant to the terms and provisions of the collective bargaining agreements and Declarations of Trust (“Trust Agreement”) which established the Funds.

6. Defendant **GENESIS PAINTING & DECORATING, CO. (“GENESIS”)**, an Illinois corporation, is an employer engaged in an industry affecting commerce which entered into a collective bargaining agreements (“Labor Agreement”) with the Union on or about **October 29, 2021** whereby **GENESIS** agreed to be bound by the provisions of the Labor Agreement and any subsequent agreements negotiated between the Union and certain employer associations. A copy of the Labor Agreement is attached as “**Exhibit A**”.

The Agreements

7. Pursuant to the provisions of the Labor Agreement, **GENESIS** is bound to the Trust Agreements and is required to make periodic contributions to the Funds for each hour worked by its bargaining unit employees working within the occupational and jurisdictional scope described

therein at the rate and in the manner specified by the Labor Agreement and the Trust Agreements. In addition, **GENESIS** is required to make contributions to the Funds measured by hours worked by subcontractors performing painters' or tapers' work who fail to make contributions to the Funds.

8. Under the terms of the Labor Agreement and Trust Agreement to which it is bound, **GENESIS** is required to submit all necessary books and records to Plaintiffs' auditor for the purpose of determining whether **GENESIS** is in compliance with its obligation to contribute to the Funds. In addition, the Labor Agreement and the Trust Agreements require **GENESIS** to pay liquidated damages, interest, auditors fees, and all attorneys fees and court costs incurred by the Funds in the collection process.

The Claim

9. Upon information and belief, Plaintiffs are advised that **GENESIS** has breached the provisions of the Labor Agreement and Trust Agreement by failing submit its monthly contribution reports for the work months of December 2024 through the present , and payment for any and all contributions and liquidated damages due on those reports.

10. To determine the extent of Defendant's liability, Plaintiffs require a fringe benefit contribution compliance audit of Defendant's books and records for the period of **April 1, 2024 through the present;**

10. Plaintiffs have been required to employ the undersigned attorneys and their law firm to collect the monies that may be found to be due and owing from **GENESIS**.

11. **GENESIS** is obligated to pay the attorneys' fees and court costs incurred by the Plaintiffs pursuant to the Labor Agreement, the Trust Agreements, and 29 U.S.C. Section 1132(g)(2)(D).

12. Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. Section 1132(g)(2)(C), Plaintiffs are entitled to an amount equal to the greater of:

- (i) interest on the unpaid contributions; or
- (ii) liquidated damages provided for under the Trust Agreements not in excess of 20% of the amount that is due.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for relief as follows:

A. This Court order **GENESIS** to submit all necessary books and records to Plaintiff's auditor for the purpose of determining whether or not it is in compliance with its obligation to contribute to the Funds for an audit for the period of **April 1, 2024 through the present**;

B. That judgment be entered in favor of Plaintiffs and against Defendant in the amount shown to be due on the audit;

C. Plaintiffs be awarded their costs herein, including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in the prosecution of this action, together with liquidated damages in the amount of 20%, all as provided in the applicable agreements and ERISA Section 502(g)(2); and

D. This Court grant Plaintiffs such other and further relief as it may deem appropriate under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

**TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS
AND DECORATORS PENSION FUND, et al.,**

By: /s/ James R. Anderson
One of their Attorneys

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